

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 FEA-02 SPC-03 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8627

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 0296

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SZ

SUBJ: ENERGY: SWISS CONSULTATION PRIOR FEBRUARY WASHINGTON
MEETING

REF: (A) BERN 170; (B) BERN 104

1. SWISS OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE SCHEDULING AND OTHER COM-
PLICATIONS INVOLVED IN PLANNING TRAVEL BY US SPECIAL REPRESENT-
ATIVE TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR WASHINGTON FOREIGN
MINISTERS MEETING ON ENERGY. IN LAST FEW DAYS, HOWEVER,
EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH KEY GOS OFFICIALS INDICATE GROWING
IMPATIENCE AT LACK OF USG RESPONSE THUS FAR TO SUGGESTION
THAT SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE MAKE BRIEF VISIT TO
SWITZERLAND FOR TALKS WITH SWISS PRIOR WASHINGTON
MEETING.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFFS FOLLOWING BERN LECTURE
PROFESSOR FRITZ MACHLUP JANUARY 23, AMBASSADOR JOLLES,
DIRECTOR SWISS DIVISION OF COMMERCE, SAID HE CONTINUED
BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT SWISS SHOULD SUPPORT MULTILATERAL
APPROACH TO ENERGY PROBLEM BUT THAT INTERNAL PRESSURES
GROWING FOR ADOPTION INDEPENDENT COURSE OF ACTION
(DIRECT CONTACT WITH PRODUCERS, EFFORT REDUCE DEPENDENCE
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ON MAJORS, ETC.). HE INTENDED CONTINUE RESIST THESE

PRESSURES BUT NEEDED SOME EVIDENCE THAT MULTILATERAL TACK WAS WORKING AND THAT SWITZERLAND WAS IN SOME WAY INVOLVED. CONTACT WITH US SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WOULD VERY MUCH HELP AND JOLLES SAID HE WAS PREPARED BE VERY FLEXIBLE ON WHERE SUCH MEETING TOOK PLACE, RECALLING PAST CONSULTATIONS WITH US OFFICIALS AT SUCH PLACES AS ZURICH AIRPORT, PARIS HOTEL, ETC. JOLLES WAS UNABLE SEE UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON, FEO ADMINISTRATOR SIMON, OR ANY OTHER HIGH-LEVEL USG ENERGY OFFICIAL DURING HIS DECEMBER VISIT WASHINGTON.

3. JOLLES SAID THAT IN GENEVA SPEECH JANUARY 24 HE WILL TRY CAREFULLY DEFINE SWISS ENERGY POLICY EVEN THOUGH SUCH POLICY HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY FORMULATED BY FEDERAL COUNCIL. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER FOLLOWING SPEECH.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE ON PREPARATIONS FOR WASHINGTON MEETING AND/OR TRAVEL BY US SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WHICH WE CAN SHARE WITH GOS OFFICIALS.
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